

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Adams, Edward Dean

1908-1930

[71 Broadway, NY, NY]

Mr. Adams

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
5 AVENUE AND 10 STREET

March 27, 1908.

My dear Mr. Adams:-

It interests
me greatly that you have such a
quick eye for medals.

I don't know of the existence
of any Belisarius' medals, but one
was given Belisarius by the king
of the kind mentioned in the poem.
Whether there were others stuck
off for distribution, I do not
know.

If Belisarius' medals could be
unearthed, what a wonderful find
it would be!

Yours very truly,

Irving L. Giant

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART
NEW YORK

LIBRARY OF THE MUSEUM

April 27, 1908

Mr. Edward D. Adams,
71 Broadway,
New York City

4/28

Dear Mr. Adams:

In a letter just received from Mr. L. Forrer of London in reply to an inquiry for a reference to a medal or a reproduction of the portrait of Belisarius, he says: "There is no medal of Belisarius of the time of Justinian, and so far as I know his portrait does not exist on any contemporary work of sculpture or painting. Modern portraits are purely imaginative."

Mr. Forrer has written several works and among them a Biographical Dictionary of Medallists.

I shall not take Mr. Forrer's opinion as final, but keep the matter in mind and hope to find what you desire.

Very truly yours,

Wm Clifford
Librarian

71 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

August 11, 1919

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary
American Numismatic Society
156th Street & Broadway, New York City

Dear Mr. Noe:

Please let me know if I may have the
consent of the American Numismatic Society to my use,
in a war memorial to be erected at Rumson, New Jersey,
of the eagle designed by Eli Harvey, which I presented
two years ago to the Numismatic Society for issue in
medallic form.

Sincerely yours

Edward D. Adams

August 18, 1919.

Mr. Edward D. Adams,
71 Broadway,
New York.

My dear Mr. Adams:-

Mr. Newell was in Saturday and I spoke to him about the use of the Eagle design by Mr. Harvey for a war memorial at Rumson. He very gladly gave his consent for you to use this design in any way you saw fit.

Have you a large impression of this Eagle? If not, we have the large bronze casting of the original medal which we will very gladly place at your disposal.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

71 BROADWAY
NEW YORK.

August 20, 1919

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway and West 156th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Many thanks for your courteous letter of August 18th, and for the permission kindly given by Mr. Newell for my use of the Harvey Eagle design in connection with the War Memorial at Rumson. Should the large impression of the eagle be desired I will avail of your kind offer.

Thanking you in the meantime therefor, I am

Sincerely yours

Edward D. Adams

71 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

November 17, 1919

American Numismatic Society
156th St. West of Broadway
New York City

Gentlemen:

There are returned to you herewith the two medals that you kindly lent me for reproduction in a Club memorial booklet that I am preparing, being the French Legion d'Honneur and the French Croix de Guerre. In thanking you for your courtesy, I would ask you to pardon the delay in the return of the medals, which has been caused by the present strike conditions affecting the printers.

Very truly yours

Edward Adams
W.

Encs.

71 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

April 15, 1920

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator
American Numismatic Society
156th Street & Broadway, New York City

My dear Mr. Wood:

Herewith I send you for your perusal certain details respecting the medal of John Paul Jones that I think may interest you.

Permit me to suggest, as a means of pushing the inquiry still further than Mrs. Ingraham has done, that you

1) Communicate first with the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, asking for a copy of the John Paul Jones medal. Whatever may be the price, I will reimburse you therefor, presuming it will be either for silver or bronze. Also inquire if they have the original die, and if so, what would be the expense of striking an impression of the medal therefrom in gold.

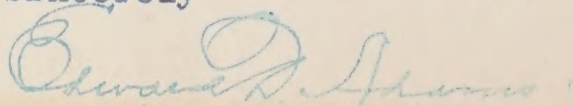
2) Write to La Monnaie, Paris, inquiring if they have a copy of the John Paul Jones. If so, purchase one, and inquire, if they have no copy now but have the die, what would be the charge for striking one for you.

I am interested in this connection to know what issues of John Paul Jones medals there have been other than that which was issued by our Society at the time I was Chairman of the Committee on the Publication of Medals.

Please return the correspondence at your convenience, and oblige

Yours sincerely

What John Paul Jones
medals are in the
Society's collections?



71 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

May 20, 1920

Mr. Arthur C. Wyman, Assistant to Curator
American Numismatic Society
156th Street & Broadway, New York City

Dear Mr. Wyman:

Many thanks, I assure you, for the article relating to Belisarius that you kindly enclosed to me with your letter of May 18, 1920.

I made numerous inquiries of foreign museums in 1907-1908 regarding this supposed medal, but failed to obtain any trace of it, and finally concluded that it never existed. I congratulate Mrs. Brett upon this part of the results of her investigations of coins of the late Roman Empire.

Sincerely yours



Wood's file

May 12th, 1921

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
71 Broadway
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

Your favour of May 10th with the list of personages on "Im Wiener Rathause, 21. Sept. 1910" medal at hand. We beg to thank you very much for this; it certainly adds to the interest of the medal having these names.

Again thanking you very much, I am

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

71 BROADWAY
NEW YORK.

REGISTERED

March 8, 1922

American Numismatic Society
156th Street West of Broadway
New York City

Gentlemen:

As a further contribution to the collections of our Society, I have pleasure in sending you herewith a little bronze plaquette commemorating the eightieth anniversary of the firm of Wurzl & Sons, of Vienna, being a recent work of Professor Rudolf Marschall of that city.

Sincerely yours

Edward H. Rulams

Enc.

by

March 11th, 1922

Edward W. Adams, Esq.
71 Broadway
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

I beg to thank you very much indeed for the
very fine plaque commemorating the eightieth
anniversary of the firm of Wurlz & Sons, of Vienna,
which you kindly sent up to the Society yesterday.

Trusting to see you up here again in the near
future,

Very truly yours,

Curator

598 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

November 30, 1923

Mr. Edward T. Newell, President
American Numismatic Society
156th Street West of Broadway, New York City

Dear Mr. Newell:

Enclosed I send you a list of coins
that are held by a sea captain who occasionally visits
this city. I understand that these may be seen, if
anyone is interested in knowing about them, with a
possibility of acquiring them. I fancy they may be
obtained upon very favorable terms.

If I can promote your interest in the
matter in any way, I shall be happy to do so.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edward T. Newell", written in a cursive style.

Enc.

December 6th, 1923.

Edward D. Adams, Esq.,
598 Madison Avenue,
New York.

Dear Mr. Adams:

Your favor of November 30th to Mr. Newell has been opened by me. Mr. Newell is at present in Palestine.

I have looked over the list of coins and see nothing that would interest us, for as near as I can tell we have all of them. I doubt if there is any coin on the list that is really rare. At the present moment I do not think of any one who would be especially interested in these.

Yours very truly,

Curator.

December 10th, 1923.

Edward D. Adams, Esq.,
598 Madison Avenue,
New York.

Dear Mr. Adams,

As per your telephone request, I am
herewith enclosing the list of coins.

Very truly yours,

List sent by Mr. Adams in previous letter.

Curator.

November 27th, 1923

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
598 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of
the letter from Mr. Frank Rishawi, and shall take
pleasure in forwarding same to Mr. Newell.

Very truly yours,

Curator

598 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

January 8, 1924

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator
The American Numismatic Society
156th Street West of Broadway, N.Y.C.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Referring to our conversation over the
telephone today, the inscription which Mr. Adams would
like to have placed on the Edison Medal is as follows:

Presented by Edward Dean Adams,
Chairman Edison Medal Committee of
Annual Award For 1923-24

Very truly yours

Albert E. Robert

Secretary to Mr. Adams

Jan 8 1924

March 4th, 1924

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
920 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

I located a concern yesterday which could satisfactorily make electrotypes of the Niagara Medal. They would do this for not over Five Dollars each. This, of course, does not include the engraving on the back which would come under a set piece of so much a letter. These electrotypes would be of copper filled in, and a back set on so that it would not be seen; the engraving would then be done, and then the medal would be silver-plated. The man would want in the neighbourhood of two months in which to do these, as they would work from a single mould, and each one would virtually be treated as hand work.

As telephoned you yesterday, one concern would attempt to do them by casting, and their price was Eight Dollars each. Personally, I think that casting would not give as good result as electrotyping.

Very truly yours,

Curator

598 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

March 5, 1924

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator
American Numismatic Society
156th Street West of Broadway, New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your persistence on my behalf, I am glad to see, has found a way out of our dilemma, as the original die of the MacMonnies Niagara medal has disappeared in the death of the maker, the change of his atelier, and the dispersion with other relics of his industry during the past thirty years.

I have concluded not to have any engraving on the back, preferring, if I can arrange for it, as I think I can, to set the medal in a bronze base so that it will serve as a paper weight.

I would thank you to proceed with this party upon the terms he names, all for my account. Would it not be well to have him submit the first medal, so that you may judge as to his skill? Unless he exhibits specimens of his work that give you great confidence in the results, it might be best to make your agreement with him subject to your approval of the product that he turns out, commencing with No. 1.

I shall require thirty copies.

Thanking you very much for your intercession on my behalf, I am

Sincerely yours

Wm. L. Brown
to Mr. Howland Wood

8105 1340

March 7th, 1924

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
920 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

I have arranged with the Medallie Art Company
to make one electrotpe of the Niagara Medal, mounted
on a base to be used as a paper weight. This they
have promised to give me in a comparatively few days.

Very truly yours, *

Curator

March 15th, 1924

Edgar H. Adams, Esq.
Bayville, L.I.

Dear Mr. Adams:

I think you once asked me for a photograph
of the 1862 4-real piece of Ecuador. Well, here
it is!

Very truly yours,

Curator

Enc.

598 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

March 18, 1924

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator
American Numismatic Society
156th Street West of Broadway, New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

I thank you most sincerely for your courtesy in attending to the Niagara medal matter for me.

I have authorized the work to be done upon the terms that you have kindly arranged for me, providing, however, that the moldings on the pedestal should be slightly changed so as to provide near the top a molding that would be sufficiently pronounced in extension over the curved surface beneath, to permit the easy grasp of the medal as a paper weight. In the shape of the specimen it is not practicable because the fingers cannot lift it.

Hoping you will enjoy in the way you wish it, your absence from the Society's building, I am

Sincerely yours

Edward D. Adams

May 22, 1925

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
920 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

Mr. Ruch handed me the other day the silver medal of Pope Pius XI, commemorating the opening of the Porta Sancta. We did not have this and we were very glad to get it and I beg to thank you most sincerely for this gift.

Very truly yours

HW C

Curator

March 19th, 1926

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
598 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

Mr. Langdon has handed to me three Czecho-Slovak
and two Jugoslav medals which you have very kindly
presented to the Society. Thank you very much indeed
for these; we are very glad to add them to our Cabinet
and greatly appreciate your continued support.

Very truly yours,

Curator

June 9th, 1926

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
920 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams;

On behalf of the Society, I beg to thank you very much indeed for the Arthur Von Gwinner Medal, which we are indeed very glad to add to our Collection. We had no specimen of this and it makes a very welcome addition to our Cabinet.

We greatly appreciate your kindness in presenting this medal to the Society.

Very truly yours,

Curator

January 21, 1927

Edward D. Adams, Esq.,
598 Madison Ave.,
New York City

Dear Sir:

Mr. Nee called to my attention this morning my oversight in not acknowledging the receipt of the Medal "Seek Truth" by Professor Marschall that you so kindly left here the other Sunday. I beg to apologize for my tardiness in not having acknowledged this.

Our annual meeting and reviewing the reports as an outcome of this, as well as a quite extensive checking up of certain sections of our cabinet, has put off entering and acknowledging gifts received for 1927. Also I have been obliged to be away a number of times lately.

I was much interested in the note left with this medal, as well as the medal itself. We are very much pleased to have it and on behalf of the Society, I wish to thank you for letting us have one of these specimens.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW:MB

598 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

August 4th. 1927.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary
The American Numismatic Society
Broadwat at 155th. Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

Referring to my conversation over the telephone this morning with your Mr. Roberts, I am sending you enclosed the notice from the General Post Office, addressed to the American Numismatic Society, c/o Edw. D. Adams, 598 Madison Avenue, New York City, advising the arrival of a registered package which is held for custom inspection.

Since Mr. Adams is in Europe and I cannot obtain his authorization to receive the package, and it would appear from the address that this package is intended for the American Numismatic Society, I sending you this notice with the request that you kindly obtain the same, but in any event to advise me whether the contents of the package are intended for your Society, or for Mr. Adams. In the latter event I would call for same.

I might add that Mr. Adams had notified me of a shipment of medals from Paris.

Awaiting the receipt of your reply, I am

Yours very truly,

Ernst Sandmann
Secretary.

August 12, 1927

Mr. Ernst Sandmann,
598 Madison Avenue,
New York City

Dear Sir:

In re your letter of August 4th, we have got through the post office the registered package from Paris. This contained one of the French Mint series of the Lindbergh medal recently issued. Presumably Mr. Adams intended this for our Museum and we will hold it here unless you have information to the contrary.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HY:MB

August 19, 1927

Mr. Edward D. Adams,
598 Madison Ave., Room 805,
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

We wish to thank you very much for your kind thought in sending us so promptly one of the Lindbergh French Mint medals. This came to hand the other day.

We trust you are having an enjoyable time in France and beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,

Curator

HW:MB

September 20, 1927

Mr. Edward D. Adams,
598 Madison Ave.,
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:-

Mr. Rush left a note that you had been up here Sunday. I am very glad to know that you are back in this country and I trust that you had an enjoyable trip abroad.

An acknowledgment of the Lindbergh medal was sent to your Madison Avenue office on receipt of this medal. Possibly you noted in one of the papers several different types of Lindbergh medals. We are trying to get hold of all of the different ones that we can.

Trusting to see you shortly, I remain

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW:MB

EDWARD DEAN ADAMS
NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY, FIFTH AVENUE
AT SEVENTY-THIRD STREET
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE, BUTTERFIELD FIVE-THREE-FIVE-EIGHT

May
Twenty-second,
1928.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway & 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Here is a reproduction of the design by a French artist that was made by Augustin Dupre at the suggestion, it is said, of Benjamin Franklin. This was probably done at the time when he protested against the adoption of the American eagle as the emblem of the United States of America.

Have you a copy of this medal? Is there a copy of it in the French Mint, Paris?

With good wishes as ever for your success and that of our society, I am

Sincerely yours,

Edward Dean Adams

23d May, 1928

Mr. Edward Dean Adams,
920 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Adams:

Many thanks for the photograph of the original sketch of Empe's Libertas Americana medal. The history of this is really quite interesting and I think should be found in Loubat's history. We have an original in silver as well as one in copper. I think restrikes have been made at various times, and although the restrikes were made at the Paris mint, I can not find these pieces for sale in their catalogue of medals; nor do I find it among the list of medals for sale at the Philadelphia Mint. Originals are not especially rare and can be gotten from most of the dealers. Without doubt, Mayte Raymond has one. I could not say whether there is a copy in the French mint, though I feel sure they must have this piece.

Very truly yours,

Curator

P.S. On re-reading your letter, I am in doubt whether you intended to give us this photograph and the remarks concerning it. If not, please let me know and I will return it to you.

EDWARD DEAN ADAMS
NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY, FIFTH AVENUE
AT SEVENTY-THIRD STREET
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE, BUTTERFIELD FIVE-THREE-FIVE-EIGHT

June
Fourth
1928.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th and 156th Sts.,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:

Replying to your letter of May
23rd respecting the photograph of the original
sketch of Dupre's Libertas Americana medal, I
would be pleased to have you return this to me at
your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Edward D. Adams

EDA/c

6th June, 1938

Mr. Edward D. Adams,
920 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Adams:

I am herewith returning to you the data concerning the Libertas Americana medal. I have shown it to several people, and was very glad to have the opportunity of holding it here a few days.

Very truly yours,

Curator

July 25th, 1928

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
598 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

On my return from the Mountains, I found that you had presented us with that very beautiful Aviation medal by Dammann. An official acknowledgment will be sent to you as soon as Mr. Newell comes in.

Mr. Rush was telling me that you had been presented with the Order of Leopold and that you wished to know a little more about it:

There are two orders of Leopold - one known simply as the Order of Leopold, and the other as the Order of Leopold II. The former has a purple ribbon; the latter, dark blue with a black centre stripe. As I understand it, the Order of Leopold with the purple ribbon ranks the highest of all of their orders. The Order of Leopold II ranks third. All given for both civil and military honours - the former having crossed swords under the crown. This Order of Leopold was instituted in 1872. The grades are the same as the Légion d'Honneur.

I understand that you received either the Commander or the Officer grade. If the former, the badge is worn around the neck. If an Officer, there is a round rosette on the ribbon, and it is worn on the left breast.

Before, during and since the World War, I understand that almost two hundred Americans have received different grades of this order. Allow me to congratulate you on getting this highest Belgian distinction.

Very truly yours,

Curator

555 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

November
Twenty-sixth,
1929.

American Numismatic Society,
156th St., West of Broadway,
New York City.

Gentlemen:

For the purpose of presentation to the historical societies that I am quite sure will take a lively interest in the life of Amerigo Vespucci as I have presented it in my address upon that subject, of which I believe you have a copy, I desire to obtain two examples of the medal that my committee on medals published and on which I reported to our American Numismatic Society.

If you have any duplicates of this medal I would be glad to buy them for the above named purpose.

Thanking you in anticipation of your usual courtesy, I am

Sincerely yours,

Edward D. Adams

November 27th 1929

Mr. Edward D. Adams
598 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

I cannot find that we have had any duplicate copies of the Amerigo Vespucci medal come into the Museum for a number of years. We already have a memorandum that you desire one of these medals, and I have now supplemented the memorandum with a note that you wish two of these medals in either bronze or silver. I will try to bear in mind to look for them more carefully in various auction sales. It is an interesting fact that with one or two exceptions, few of our medals ever come up for sale.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

March 10, 1930

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
598 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

We have recently obtained America Vespucci medals in silver, and our records show that you desire two copies. If you still wish these, we should be glad to send them to you, if you will let us know.

Yours very truly,

Curator.

March 10th 1930

Edward D. Adams, Esq.
598 Madison Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Adams:

We have recently obtained an America Vespucci medal in silver. Our records show that you desire two copies, and if you still wish this, and will let us know, we shall be glad to send it to you.

Yours very truly,

Curator.

598 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

March
Eleven th,
1930.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your kind letter of March tenth
has been received during Mr. Adams' absence
in the South and will be forwarded to him.

I am quite sure that Mr. Adams still
desires to have the Amerigo Vespucci medal
therefore beg you to hold the matter in abey-
ance until I hear from Mr. Adams about the early
part of next week.

Yours very truly,

Ernst Sandmann
Secretary.

598 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

March
Seventeenth,
1930.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Referring to your letter of March
tenth regarding the Amerigo Vespucci medal in
silver, Mr. Adams writes me that he would like
to have said medal, also that we would thank
you to list him for a second copy.

Please send the medal with your invoice
to the above address.

Thanking you in anticipation, I am

Yours very truly,

Ernst Sandmann

Secretary

Enrollment invited

2/18/30 Rush

bill 10.00

598 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

March
Nineteenth,
1930.

American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th & 156th Streets,
New York City.

Dear Sirs:

Your invoice of March 18th, for
1 Amerigo Vespucci Medal, to Mr. Edward
Dean Adams, has been received, in payment
of which I enclose herein my check to
your order in the amount of \$10.-

Yours very truly,

Ernst Sandmann

Secretary